

## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS COMMUNICATIONS

## NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Household Hazardous Waste Facility Gears Up for Spring Cleaning**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) - It is springtime and time for spring-cleaning! The Sedgwick County Household Hazardous Waste Facility wants to remind residents to dispose hazardous waste responsibly. Residents of Sedgwick County can do so by taking their waste items to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 801 Stillwell, for free.

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility accepts almost all chemical items from residential houses, such as paint, aerosols, batteries, antifreeze, pesticides, herbicides, household cleaners, and propane.

In addition to these items, the Household Hazardous Waste Facility accepts used oil and oil filters also for free. According to the EPA, an estimate of one gallon of used oil can contaminate up to one million gallons of drinking water. In 2002, the HHW Facility received 107,600 pounds or 13,450 gallons of used oil from Sedgwick County residents.

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility also offers a "Swap-&-Shop" where Sedgwick County residents can take selected materials home at no charge. Some materials that may be found in the "Swap-&-Shop" are paint, fertilizers, aerosols, and household chemicals.

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Through the "Swap-&-Shop" the Household Hazardous Waste Facility has been able to recycle or reuse 90 percent of the products that have been brought to the facility since it's opening in October of 2002.

"The Household Hazardous Waste is a great facility for Sedgwick County residents. It's centrally located and has convenient hours for the public," said Commission Chairman Tim Norton. "We want to encourage residents to make use of the facility and to do their part to help protect our environment."